the dread uniformity of natural laws, and arrests at the proper time the prejudicial effects which would follow from their unbending mode of operation. We have said that we are not jealous of the discovery of law in the government of God, but it is because we have marked how law is made to operate. We would be as jealous of law as any man can be, if it acted as some represent it—we would be as jealous of it as of mere brute force under no control. We are not jealous of the introduction and widest extension of general laws; for in their harmonious adjustment, they acquire a plastic power which enables them to fulfil each of the purposes of an all-wise God. While the fixed nature of the laws gives to providence its firmness, the immense number and nice adaptation of these laws, like the innumerable rings of a coat-of-mail, give to it its flexibility, whereby it fits in to the shape and posture of every individual man,

A vessel is launched upon the ocean, fitted, so far as human sagacity can discover, to reach its destination. But when it has readied a particular place, a great rarefaction of the air is produced by heat in a diilerent quarter of the world; the wind rush*'H in to fill up the vacuum, lashes the ocean into fury, bears down upon the vessel, and hurrying it furiously along, dashes it upon a mclc which is in the way, and scatters the whole crew upon the wide waste of waters. The greater number perish; but* Home two or three are able to lay hold of portions of the floating wreck, and are borne to the rock, whore they find refuge fill another ship, opportunely passing by, picks them up, at the very time when they were ready to die of hunger. Now, it is surely conceivable that an all-wise and an omnipotent God might have every link in this long and complicated chain adjusted, with the speeia* view of bringing about each of these ends—the drowning of some, and the saving of

others, after having designedly exposed them to danger. Nor in all this would there bo any violation of the sequences of nature, nor any suspension of general laws j there in merely such a skilful dis-position as to Hccure the special ends which God from the first contemplated,

(3.) By thin means, too, he can *produce effects which could not have followed from the operation of the laws of nature acting singly*. By their combination or collision, results follow which, in respect of magnitude and rapidity, far transcend the